

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 ACDA-12 /090 W

-----102057 150312Z /65

R 150200Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 259

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 2145

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PLOS, UR, CH, JA, SRV, CB

SUBJECT: COMMENTS BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR ON RECENT ASIAN DEVELOPMENTS

1. DURING MY FAREWELL CALL ON SOVIET AMBASSADOR RAZDUKHOV, HE MADE A FEW COMMENTS WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST TO ADDRESSEES, AS FOLLOWS:

2. RAZDUKHOV PROFESSED INABILITY TO UNDERSTAND PRC MOTIVATIONS IN CREATING ISSUE OVER SENKAKU ISLANDS AT THIS TIME. FROM SCALE OF INCIDENTS PLUS FACT THAT SOME PRC FISHING BOATS WERE ARMED, HE BELIEVED INTRUSIONS INTO JAPANESE-CLAIMED WATERS WERE NOT ACCIDENTAL BUT PREMEDIATED, AND SPECULATED THAT COINCIDENCE OF INCIDENTS JUST AS JAPANESE WERE MOVING TOWARD POSSIBLE CONCLUSION OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH PEKING MIGHT BE INDICATION OF POLICY DIFFERENCES AT HIGHEST PRC LEVELS. HE NOTED DISCRE-

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PANCY BETWEEN PRC EMBASSY STATEMENT IN TOKYO TO EFFECT CHINESE WOULD DEFEND THEIR SOVERIGNTY AND LATER BY KENG PIAO IN PEKING THAT INTRUSIONS WERE "ACCIDENTAL." HE BELIEVED THAT PRC INTEREST IN OFFSHORE OIL IN SENKAKUS AREA, NOT FISH, WAS ANOTHER FACTOR.

3. ON BORDER CLASHES BETWEEN SRV AND CAMBODIA, RAZDUKHOV

EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT CHINESE HAD INSTIGATED CAMBODIANS INTO ATTACKING VIET-NAM FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF RETARDING SRV ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. HE MAINTAINED THAT HANOI HAD NO INTENTION OF INTERFERING IN CAMBODIA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS, WANTED TO MAINTAIN FRIENDLY RELATIONS, AND HAD NO AMBITIONS TO ESTABLISH A "CONFEDERATION OF INDOCHINESE STATES." (ON LATTER POINT, I OBSERVED THAT I HAD SEEN STATEMENTS BY SENIOR SRV LEADERS DENYING ANY INTENTION OF ESTABLISHING SUCH A CONFEDERATION, BUT ALSO STRESSING THE DESIRABILITY OF STRENGTHENING UNITY AMONG THE THREE COMMUNIST PARTIES.)

4. RAZDUKHOV DISCLAIMED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF INCIDENT REPORTED IN PRESS MAY 12 BETWEEN CHINESE AND SOVIETS ALONG USSURI RIVER. HE DESCRIBED SITUATION ALONG THE 10,000-KILOMETER SINO-SOVIET BORDER AS "GENERALLY QUIET."

5. FINALLY IN A BRIEF COMMENT ON US-SOVIET RELATIONS, RAZDUKHOV STATED THAT MOSCOW REGARDED OUTCOME OF THE RECENT VISIT BY SECRETARY VANCE TO MOSCOW AS A POSITIVE STEP TOWARD A SALT AGREEMENT.

6. COMMENT: AS AN OLD CHINA HAND, RAZDUKHOV'S COMMENTS REGARDING THE PRC MAY BE MORE A REFLECTION OF HIS OWN PARTICULAR INTERESTS THAN A SOVIET OFFICIAL APPRAISAL. HOWEVER, I BELIEVE HIS REMARKS ON THE OUT-CONFIDENTIAL

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COME OF THE VANCE VISIT MUST REFLECT MOSCOW GUIDANCE.  
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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